



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Interim Area Navigation (RNAV) Approach Design Guidance

Date: DEC 31 2003

From: Manager, Flight Technologies and Procedures Division, AFS-400

Reply to Attn. of:

To: Program Director, Aviation System Standards, AVN-1

Program Director, Air Traffic Planning and Procedures Program, ATP-1

Order 8260.48, Area Navigation (RNAV) Approach Construction Criteria, paragraph 3.3.1.4 states "... *When stepdown fixes are necessary to achieve acceptable minimums, publish a stand-alone LNAV procedure.*" This requirement is no longer valid and is rescinded. It was initially established to accommodate database development requirements to support vertical navigation (VNAV) operators.

The requirement was a subject of discussion at the Aeronautical Charting Forum, Instrument Procedures Group (ACF-IPG) under issue 02-01-245. A history of the original issue paper and ACF discussions may be viewed at <http://av-info.faa.gov/terps/ACF-IPG/>. The ACF-IPG unanimously agreed that stepdown fixes in the form of along-track-distance (ATD) fixes would not impact VNAV operators while providing benefit to lateral navigation (LNAV) operators.

This guidance memo is effective until the publication of Order 8260.XX, United States Standard for Area Navigation (RNAV) Instrument Procedure Design.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Donald Pate, AFS-420, at (405) 954-4164.

Original Signed By:

Mickey Hoster

for John W. McGraw